



Archived at the Flinders Academic Commons:  
<http://hdl.handle.net/2328/27231>

This is a scan of a document number DUN/Speeches/0735  
in the Dunstan Collection, Special Collections, Flinders University Library.  
<http://www.flinders.edu.au/library/info/collections/special/dunstan/>

**Title:**

Press statement - State Secondary Schools - Swimming Pools

Please acknowledge the source as:  
Dunstan Collection, Flinders University Library.  
Identifier: DUN/Speeches/0735

© Copyright Estate Donald Allan Dunstan

PRESS STATEMENT FROM PREMIER

The Premier, Mr. Don Dunstan, today announced important changes in Government policy affecting the subsidising of swimming pools in State secondary schools.

Under the new policy the Government will subsidise the building of olympic-size swimming pools by local authorities where such pools are located to serve the secondary schools of the area.

Subsidies will be made on a \$1 for \$1 basis with an upper limit of subsidy of \$80,000. Pools built under the new arrangement will be the responsibility of the local authority.

"In the past Government subsidy has been available to secondary school organisations for building swimming pools at their schools," Mr. Dunstan said.

"However, even with the previous subsidy, schools have had to accept smaller pools because of inadequate resources. Furthermore, there are difficulties in making pools available to the public outside school time when they are an integral part of secondary school facilities. This means that school pools remain unused for much of the time."

"The Government considers that the new policy will result in a more sensible investment in swimming facilities in South Australia."

"The subsidy will make possible the construction of first class pools which can be fully utilised by nearby secondary schools during school time and by the local community generally at weekends and outside school hours."

"The new policy will not affect the construction of pools which the Education Department has already agreed to subsidise, nor will it affect the present arrangements under which learner pools for individual primary schools receive Government subsidy. However, no further agreements to subsidise pools will be undertaken for individual secondary schools."

"Some schools will have been accumulating funds in anticipation of receiving subsidy for a swimming pool under the previous policy. There is no reason why any school or group of schools with funds available should not make special arrangements to help finance a local authority's share of a community olympic-size pool. It can only be to their benefit to do so."

"We hope to see pools built under the new arrangements at the rate of two a year or three every two years depending on the availability of finance."

"Eventually we envisage that every community in South Australia, and all the State's secondary schools, will have ready access to the best possible swimming facilities."